

Sparks from Hammer of 'Queer' Auctioneer

THE RED FLAG OF THE FAKE SALE IS GOING, GOING-GONE?

Recent Round-Up by The Tribune Has at Least Discouraged These Farical Sales—How Secret Signals Are Worked by a Trained Staff of Operators in Character Parts.

A person who buys or sells, or pretends to buy or sell, any goods, wares or merchandise . . . exposes for sale by auction, if an actual sale, purchase and change of ownership therein does not thereupon take place, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for thirty days, or by fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or both.

A person who obtains money or property from another . . . by means of any false or fraudulent sale of property or pretended property by auction, or by any of the practices known as mock auction, is punishable by imprisonment in a state prison not exceeding three years, or in the county jail not exceeding one year, or by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and in addition thereto he forfeits any license he may hold to act as an auctioneer and is forever disqualified from receiving a license to act as an auctioneer within this state.

—Section 943, Penal Code of the State of New York.

The red flag flutters its lure, "Auction This Day," in the warm October breeze. A clock in the show window marks the time as 3:30. This must not be taken too literally, as, like nearly all the other goods in the place, it is "phony." Still, the time may be safely stated as mid-afternoon, since the air is ablaze with sunshine. Notwithstanding, there is a rival radiance within the auction den—that of several huge electric globes. The factitious glare of this illumination brings out to the uttermost the glitter of glass, the sheen of silverware and jewelry as it is exposed on the shelves or displayed in the hand of the auctioneer. He is a fat and humid person, and he sweats profusely in the fierce white light that beats upon his throne. Toward the rear, in the cashier's box, sits a not unattractive young woman. Arranged back of her, all but concealed by hangings, stand the packing cases containing the goods to be foisted on the public. Some of it is there on commission, the rest purchased outright by the operating concern. All of it is either the lowest class of junk or else reputable cheap goods made to masquerade, by the art of the auctioneer, as high-class wares.

As it is the "dead hour" of the trade, there isn't much of a crowd. Carefully disposed amidst the scant dozen representatives of the "sucker" public are three "shillbills" or "shills." A shill is an accomplice and employee of the auctioneer, whose rôle it is to offer mock bids, according to a secret signal system, and otherwise to stimulate the public interest. One, near the entrance, wears the coat of a band musician, with the letters A. F. M. on the collar, and carries a trombone. (The "parts" are often well costumed in this force.) Another, on the rear fringe of the crowd, is a middle aged woman with a shopper's parcel. The third, a negro, is under the auctioneer's very nose. Pipe in mouth, an off-duty auctioneer, who will presently substitute for his partner, wanders about the place disconsolately. He is playing the part of the owner of the goods now (supposititiously) being auctioned off at sheriff's sale. On his high perch the fat auctioneer wearily waves a suitcase, upon which bidding has been slack. Suddenly he leans over to the negro, with an angry face.

The Auctioneer—If you're going to bid, why'n't you bid out loud.

The Negro Shill—Did bid out loud. Said two dollars.

The Auctioneer—Two dollars? Yah! Had the half three minutes ago. Keep your ears open or your mouth shut.

The Negro Shill—Guess I got as much right to open my mouth as anybody. Money talks, don't it? An' I got the money.

The Auctioneer (threateningly)—Show some of it, then.

The Negro Shill—I'll show it all right—all right when I buy. You ain't givin' me a fair show. You're a dis-ca-riminatin' against me. That's against the law.

The Auctioneer—Don't you talk to me about the law. I'm running this auction. Go outside and talk to yourself. Go on, now. Git!

The Negro Shill (making a slow exit)—I got as much right here as anybody. I ain't done nuthin'. I got money to buy with if they'd give me a show. (Passing outside, followed by the other shills, and apostrophizing the flag)—What are you dunn' up there, purtendin' to be a fair-play auction place—

The Associate Auctioneer—Say, look here, my man. You'd better move on.

The Negro Shill (resentfully)—Who are you? What'll I move on for? (Appealing to the gathering crowd)—I went in there to buy, and the fellow won't sell me. He says I don't bid right. I say I'm entitled to a fair show, if I am dark complected. There's stuff there I wanta bid on.

The Musician Shill (in an unctuous voice)—They sure have got some swell articles in there.

The Woman Shill (on another edge of the crowd)—Such prices for good silver I never saw. If I hadn't spent all my money—

The Associate Auctioneer—It's tough on a man to see his stock going for nothing.

The Negro Shill—They was one watch there, a railroad watch! Oh, lawdy! If I'd got there one minute sooner—

A Callow Youth in the crowd—What did it sell for?

The Musician Shill—Fourteen, and worth forty.

(The crowd, caught and fooled by the oratory of the negro shill, begins to drift in, to the tune of enthusiastic and enticing descriptions by the other shills. Once inside, the youth who inquired about the watch is taken in hand by the pipe-smoking supposed owner of the stock, who catches the fat auctioneer's eye. That humid wordy immediately sets down the priceless meerschaum, which nobody bid for—in the absence of the shills—and proceeds to "play up.")

The Auctioneer—What's that? Somebody want a railroad watch? I'm not sure the storekeeper has one left. (Turning back over his shoulder)—Miss Simons, got a railroad watch? Look in the safe, please. Might be one left. A gentleman has asked for one. (Turning to the musician shill, who has worked his way forward)—What make would you prefer, sir?

Howard, Waltham, Jorgensen, Elgin or what? Oh, a Time Ball Special. Well, that's a very fine watch. The gentleman seems to know what he wants. I only hope we have one of that class left. (To the rear)—We haven't! Oh, you've got one. Good! (Opening, polishing and holding up the watch.) Now, ladies and gentlemen, here we have a wonderful watch. I don't know of a better one made anywhere in these United States. This is the railroad watch, endorsed by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. It has twenty-one jewels, non-magnetic, and adjusted at six positions. Guaranteed for ten years. A perfect timekeeper. Whammi offered for this very fine watch? Lot No. 7. Whammi offered? Whammi offered?

The Shill (taking the cue of "No. 7," which indicates the figure at which he is to start the bidding)—Ten dollars.

The Auctioneer—Ten dollars. Ten—ten—ten—ten—

The Associate Auctioneer (to the Acting Auctioneer)—Hold on, now, Mr. Sheriff; I don't want my goods given away. I want 'em sold.

The Auctioneer—Don't tell me what to get for it. I'll get all I can, but I'll sell as bid. (To the Shill: Just the same, I'm surprised at you. You seem to know something about watches, and you offer me \$10 for a \$45 watch.)

The Associate Auctioneer (to the interested youth)—Now's your chance. Better jump in before he gets it. (To the Auctioneer) Mr. Sheriff, I'd like to have you favor my young friend here (patting youth on shoulder).

The Auctioneer (austerely)—I favor nobody. I'm here to knock this watch down to the highest bidder. Ten dollars I'm bid. Ten dollars—ten dollars—ten dol—

The Youth—Eleven.

The Shill—Twelve.

The Youth—Twelve-fifty.

The Auctioneer—Sold! For twelve-fifty to the gentleman there. Pass back to the cashier, please.

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R. B. WARD ESTATE \$5,000,000

Wife Gets Half, with Charity Provision, and Children Remainder.

The will of Robert Boyd Ward, founder of the Ward Baking Company, who died at his country home on Quaker Ridge Road, New Rochelle, on October 18, was filed in White Plains yesterday and disposes of an estate estimated to be worth between \$3,000,000 and \$5,000,000. The transfer tax affidavit simply states that the value of the real and personal property is above \$5,000.

Mr. Ward gives his wife one-half of the estate, and then he leaves her three thirty-second parts in trust for the "purpose of distributing the same as soon as it properly may be done in such proportions as she shall think proper among public, religious, benevolent, charitable and educational institutions which she shall select."

The remainder of the estate is divided among four sons and five daughters, but he directs his executors to "divide the same in such manner that each of my daughters who shall be unmarried at the time of my death shall receive double the amount given to my other children."

The executors are Mrs. Ward and the sons Charles A., Howard B. and William B.

FOE OF DRUG TRUST WINS BIG SUIT HERE

Judgment by Default Taken by Blacklisted Firm Against National Association.

A decree pro confesso, which is the equitable form of a judgment by default, was entered yesterday in the United States District Court against prominent members of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, in a suit for damages brought by the John D. Park & Sons Company, drug defendants of Cincinnati. Among the defendants are William Jay Schieffelin, chairman of the Citizens Union and a member of the firm of Schieffelin & Co., Charles C. Bruen and several members of Bruen, Ritchey & Co.; Isaac S. Coffin and others in the wholesale drug trade in New York, Albany, Utica, Elmira, Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo.

Although the amount of damages is one subject left to be determined upon later proof, Alton B. Parker and Matthews & Matthews, of Cincinnati, counsel for the plaintiff, estimate the sum will be nearly \$500,000. This action is one of three brought against the so-called "drug trust" by the John D. Park & Sons Company for alleged interference with the business of the firm from 1891 to 1907 by blacklisting and other methods. One of the other actions is for \$500,000, and in the third the plaintiffs seek treble of \$2,000,000 under the Sherman law.

The plaintiffs allege that the wholesale association fixed prices, circulated blacklists, and unlawfully interfered with the business of non-conforming druggists.

NEW CENTRAL Y. M. C. A. TO BE OPENED TODAY

Brooklyn's "Manhood Factory" Largest Branch in World.

Thirteen stories high and fireproof, the Y. M. C. A.'s newest "manhood factory," at Hanson and South Ellet Places, Brooklyn, will be dedicated this afternoon, with Dr. Lyman Abbott and John R. Mott the principal speakers. Services will begin at 3:30 p. m., and last until 5.

The building, the largest Y. M. C. A. structure in the world, is equipped with every requisite for the comfort of its 8,000 members. It is Brooklyn's Central Branch, erected at a cost of \$1,500,000, and is called the Clarence E. Smith Memorial in honor of the deceased son of Mrs. William Van Rensselaer Smith, who gave \$500,000 toward the fund.

Stone has been used in constructing the first two floors and brick and terra cotta above. On the first floor is an auditorium seating 650 persons. On the third is the natatorium with pool 25x75 feet. On the fifth are three gymnasiums. The upper floors are taken up with living apartments accommodating 650 men. In the basement is a laundry.

POLICEMAN WAIVES HEARING

Assault of Tribune Reporter To Be Held For Grand Jury.

Patrolman Michael Moran, charged with assaulting Edward J. Denice, a Tribune reporter, on October 20, appeared yesterday morning before Magistrate Cobb in the Tombs court and through his counsel, Charles E. Le Barbier, waived examination. Arrangements were made for his appearance Monday morning, when the magistrate will arrange for new bail and will hold Moran for the grand jury.

James E. Deleahanty, assistant District Attorney in charge of the case, was in court, and, with Harold I. Cross, of counsel for the Tribune, consented to the arrangement. Moran has been out on bail in \$1,000 since last Monday morning. He was recommended by the grand jury to be held in lieu of \$1,000. The police officer was charged with assault on the Tribune reporter after the latter had been notified of the assault.

Delay in disposing of the case in Magistrate Cobb's court was due to the fact that Moran's counsel was engaged in a murder trial in General Sessions.

MORE GOLD ARRIVES

\$5,000,000 Deposited at Assay Office for Morgan & Co.

British gold sovereigns to the amount of \$5,000,000, packed in 700 cases, arrived here yesterday from Canada and were deposited at the Assay Office. The gold was for the account of J. P. Morgan & Co. and represented further payments on purchases for that firm as commercial agents for Great Britain and France. It is expected that some coming week will witness additional heavy shipments.

With yesterday's consignment the total gold received by the Morgan firm from Ottawa and London on the present movement now amounts to nearly \$15,000,000.

HILLIS AGREES TO PEACE PLAN WITH FERGUSON

Truce Called and Dispute Will Be Submitted to Board of Three.

NEPHEW'S SUIT MAY BE SETTLED, ALSO

Preacher to Select One Judge, Opponent Another—Dr. Cadman as Peacemaker.

Seated under the same roof, but in different rooms, the Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, and Frank L. Ferguson, for five years the clergyman's business adviser and attorney, agreed yesterday morning to submit their much-advertised legal controversy to a three-headed board of arbitration.

As a consequence of this move it is likely that the \$500,000 libel suit brought against Dr. Hillis by his nephew, Percy D. Hillis, will be adjusted by the same method.

Early in the sensational and bitter fight between Dr. Hillis and Mr. Ferguson it was suggested that the question be arbitrated, but the vendetta peacemakers found their white dove returned to them minus most of its feathers. So that idea was promptly abandoned by the persons who first entertained it. Recently Dr. Nancy McGee Waters, pastor of the Tompkins Avenue Congregational Church, and Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, of the Central Congregational Church, aroused by fear of serious injury to the church, which a continuation of the quarrel seemed to threaten, decided to enter the situation boldly and lay their plan for a quiet and amicable settlement before the principals.

Dr. Hillis was informed of this a few days ago; Mr. Ferguson was consulted on Friday night.

Peace Conference Held.

Just before noon yesterday, by agreement, Mr. Ferguson and Dr. Hillis went to Dr. Cadman's study in the Central Congregational Church, Hancock Street and Franklin Avenue. Their arrival was so timed that they did not meet. Dr. Hillis was taken into the study proper and Mr. Ferguson into a room off the reception hall.

Dr. Waters and Dr. Cadman then presented their plan to each of the belligerents. This proposal was to have one arbitrator selected by Mr. Ferguson and one by Dr. Hillis, the two men chosen to select a third. Then the three umpires were to hear presentations of the case by a lawyer from each side, following which the arbitrators were to decide who was wrong, and how much the wronged man was to be paid by the other.

The principals to the controversy quickly announced their willingness to adopt this method of ending the dispute and taking it out of the courts. A preliminary agreement to do this was drawn up and signed by both men.

At no time before, during or after this proceeding did Mr. Ferguson and Dr. Hillis come into contact. When the paper had been signed Dr. Hillis departed. A few minutes later Mr. Ferguson left the building. This way of staging the affair was decided to be the only practical way, for, had they met, it is probable that even though it had been decided that the best interests of the church and cause of Christianity in general demanded arbitration, peaceful settlement might not have resulted.

All the persons connected with the matter refused to say anything about it. Dr. Waters went out of town yesterday afternoon; Dr. Hillis could not be seen; Dr. Cadman kept out of the way of interviewers, and Mr. Ferguson said further publicity was not desired.

The umpires will probably be named within a few days. R. W. Kellogg, attorney for Mr. Ferguson, and Charles T. Lark, attorney for Dr. Hillis, said yesterday that they did not know who would be selected by their clients. Mr. Lark will present Dr. Hillis's case to the board of arbitration. Tomorrow Dr. Hillis and Mr. Ferguson will sign more definite articles of agreement.

The "short ballot" will help to concentrate responsibility on the Governor for the success of his policies. It will abolish "invisible government." Vote for it in the new constitution.

THIS WEEK AT THE STRAND ROYAL GARDEN

MONDAY: HALLOWEEN

TUESDAY: ELECTION DANCES

WEDNESDAY: DRUMMERS' CONTEST

THURSDAY: SPECIAL DANCES

FRIDAY: LUCKY NUMBER CONTEST

SATURDAY: EXHIBITION OF DANCES

DANCING, THREE SESSIONS DAILY, DANCING, LUNCHEON 12:30-2:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON TEA 4:30-6:30

AFTER MOVIE SUPPER 8-12 COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS

MRS. W. J. VANDERBILT MISS ANNE MCGRAW MISS ELISIE DE WOLFE MISS ELIZABETH HARBURY

RECTOR'S Cabaret Broadway at 48th St.

Our Large Assortments Are Famous. So Are Our Low Prices

HEARN

Fourteenth Street

West of Fifth Avenue

For TOMORROW and ELECTION DAY

An Added Link in a Chain of Offerings

THAT HAS MADE US

The Busiest Store in Greater New York

(Even Though Our Birthday or Anniversary Date Does Not Happen Just Now)

THESE QUOTATIONS DO NOT HALF TELL THE STORY:

HOSIERY SALE

MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY

For Men, Women, Boys and Girls.

Unequalled Assortments—Satisfying Price Savings for next three days

For Women

Silk Hose—pure thread silk—no leading—lisle sole and toe—high spliced silk heel—black and colors—seconds of .98 quality. .59

Black Lisle—silk finish—six-thread heel and toe—double toe—also Heavy Black Cotton—seconds of .29 to .35 quality. .19

Black Cotton—with and without white soles—also Black Wool—usually .29. .21

Fine Black Cotton—double sole, heel and toe—usually .35. .35

Fine Black Silk Lisle—six-thread heel and toe—usually .35. .35

Extra Heavy Black Silk—Kaiser make—both makes have lisle lined sole and double toe. 1.79 and 1.98

Fine Silk—black, white, tan, gray and evening and street shades with lisle soles—lisle garter tops. .98

Women's Black Chamois Hose. .39

Four pairs for 1.45.

Large stock of finer quality to .98.

Women's Cotton and Lisle—black, white and balbriggan. .35 and .49

Women's Extra Sizes

Extra Size—cotton and lisle—black, white and balbriggan. .35 and .49

Three pairs of .35 for 1.00.

For Children

Girls' Lisle Fish Cotton—Black or White—Fine Rib—also Boys' Heavy Corduroy Rib in Black. .16

Worth .24.

Children's Black Cotton—heavy and medium—lisle heel and toe that give splendid wear—sizes 6 to 10. .24

6 pairs for 1.35.

Black wool—fine and heavy rib—5 to 9½. .19 to .49

Cashmere—medium weight—black—6 to 8. .24

8½ to 9½. .29

For Men

Men's Silk Lisle Hose—black and colors—reg. .24. .15

Black Cotton—special brand—double sole, heel and toe. .24

Extra heavy .29—4 prs. for 1.00.

Black Cotton—Onyx make. .35

Three pairs for 1.00.

Silk—black and colors—excellent quality—lisle sole, heel and toe—regularly .49. .35

Three pairs for 1.00.

Infants' Hose

Cashmere—silk heels and toes—white, tan and black. .24

Silk and wool—black, white, tan. .35

Three pairs for 1.00.

The Prettiest Fashions in WOMEN'S DRESSES For Now and Winter

Styles for the Pedestrian, the Skater, the Afternoon Tea and Matinee-Guest.

Simple Tailored Dresses

Serge 9.75

Favorite colors and black—cross-over front trimmed with mannish buttons—fur on collar and cuffs.

Also at this price,

Velvet, crepe de chine and satin dresses—large variety of Russian blouse, long line and full models with bands of fur and silk braids the principal trimming features.

Sample Line of Dresses at same price included—values \$14 to \$18. Too late for details.

Skating Dresses of

Fine Broadcloths. Special 24.99

White and old rose chiton broadcloth—long, graceful lines, beautifully emphasized by a black velvet yoke and high mossy green collar lined with white. "Panier" "paniers" at the hips have pocket like openings, edged with Georgette.

Gracefulness is the most striking feature of these latest model skating dresses.

Skating Dresses at Special 17.99

Black Velvet—banded Russian blouse, with novelty cut front—ball buttons—Mouffles for border on blouses, collar and cuffs.

Dress Goods Special For Tomorrow and Election Day

CHIFFON BROADCLOTHS, 1.00

50 inch and a few 54 inch pieces—regularly \$1.49—fine lamb's wool—high lustre—sponged and shrunk—Fashion favored colors, including heaver, feld mouse, army blue, navy, men's wear blue, black and limited quantity of forest green and brown.

FURS

Are Indispensable Now and for Winter—

We show practical styles—We give true names—We present only the new—Matchless values.

FUR COATS. 79.98

Hudson seal (dyed muskrat) and Near Seal (dyed cone)—full frame models—self or contrasting fur collar—handsome brocade satin linings.

Muffs—Hudson Seal (dyed muskrat)—flat and ball shapes. 19.98

Scarfs to match. 7.98, 11.98

Muffs—Genuine Beaver—ball shape. 31.98

Scarfs to match. 9.98, 11.98, 14.98

Muffs—Skunk and Opposum—ball and